



# Department of Justice

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## **BRADENTON MAN SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR DISABILITY BENEFIT FRAUD**

Tampa, Florida - U.S. District Judge Susan C. Bucklew, yesterday sentenced Frank Hagaman, age 60, of Bradenton to serve 15 months' imprisonment and to pay \$176,586 to the United States government for his scheme to defraud the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Social Security Administration (SSA) in connection with disability benefits. Hagaman pled guilty to one count of mail fraud on March 8, 2007.

According to court documents, during a five-year period Hagaman applied for and received Disability Benefits from VA and SSA by fraudulently claiming that he was too disabled to work. In fact, during that period Hagaman was operating and performing work for his landscaping company. He concealed his income and work activity by submitting false and fraudulent documents to the two federal agencies and by using his wife and son as nominees to receive the payments for the work he performed. He obtained more than \$176,000 by means of this scheme.

The case was investigated by the Office of Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs, the Office of Inspector General, Social Security Administration and by the United States Postal Inspection Service. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Bob Mosakowski.